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Supreme Court No. ____
(COA No. 57115-0-I)

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Respondent,

v.

DESMOND MODICA,

Petitioner.

PETITION FOR REVIEW

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A. IDENTITY OF MOVING PARTY

Petitioner Desmond Modica, Petitioner below, respectfully requests this Court accept review of the Court of Appeals' decision on appeal, affirming his convictions for assault in the second degree, assault in the fourth degree, tampering with a witness, and resisting arrest.

B. COURT OF APPEALS DECISION

Pursuant to RAP 13.4, Mr. Modica seeks review of the Court of Appeal's published decision in State v. Desmond Modica, No. 57115-0-I, slip op. (Wash., December 26, 2006). The opinion was filed on December 26, 2006, and is attached as Appendix A to this petition.

C. ISSUE PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

The Washington Privacy Act (WPA) requires the consent of all parties to a private telephone conversation in order for that conversation to be lawfully recorded. Where neither party consented to the recording of telephone calls made from jail, were the recordings illegally made?

D. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The facts are stated in the Opening Brief at 3-10 and are incorporated by reference.

1. Argument on Appeal. On appeal, Mr. Modica argued the trial court abused its discretion in finding Mr. Modica knowingly and unequivocally waived his right to counsel and thereafter granting his motion for self-representation, violated his right to counsel by denying his motion for reappointment, and erroneously admitted recordings of telephone conversations made without court order or consent of either party, in violation of the Washington Privacy Act, Article 1, § 7 of the Washington Constitution, and the Washington Administrative Code.

2. Decision By The Court Of Appeals. The Court of Appeals ruled Mr. Modica's waiver of his right to counsel was knowing and unequivocal, the trial court conducted sufficient colloquy, and Mr. Modica's right to a speedy trial was not in jeopardy. Slip op. at 4-7. The Court also ruled the trial court did not abuse its discretion in denying Mr. Modica's motion for reappointment. Slip op. at 7-9. The Court also found the trial court was not required to advise Mr. Modica of the seriousness and maximum penalties of the newly added Tampering charge. Slip op.

at 10-12. Finally, the Court found the telephone call recordings were admissible because the parties did not have a reasonable expectation of privacy, the conversations were not private under the WPA and both parties to the conversations consented to their recording. Slip op. 12-16. The Court also ruled that the relevant provisions of the Washington Administrative Code have been decodified, and declined to address Mr. Modica's argument that the recordings violated his privacy rights under Article 1, § 7 of the Washington Constitution. Slip op. at 16.

E. ARGUMENT WHY REVIEW SHOULD BE GRANTED

Mr. Modica requests this Court grant review of his case pursuant to RAP 13.4(b) because (1) the Court of Appeals' decision is in conflict with two decisions of the Supreme Court, State v. Wanrow, 88 Wn.2d 221, 551 P.2d 548 (1977) and State v. Faford, 128 Wn.2d 476, 484, 910 P.2d 447 (1996); and (2) the petition involves an issue of substantial public interest that should be resolved by the State Supreme Court.

THE RECORDINGS OF MR. MODICA'S TELEPHONE
CONVERSATIONS WITH HIS GRANDMOTHER
VIOLATED THE WASHINGTON PRIVACY ACT.

Almost 100 years ago, our Legislature enacted a privacy statute to criminalize the interception of private telephone conversations:

Every person . . . who shall intercept, read or in any manner interrupt or delay the sending of a message over any telegraph or telephone line . . . shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Rem. Comp. Stat. 1922 §2656 (1909). In so doing, our State again distinguished itself from nearly every other by deliberately providing greater privacy protections.¹

While the code provisions have changed, the interception of private telephone calls remains illegal to this day. RCW 9.73.030(1) prohibits all interceptions, except those made with the consent of all parties to the conversation:

- (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it shall be unlawful for any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or the State of Washington, its agencies, and political subdivisions to intercept, or record any:
 - a. Private communication transmitted by telephone, telegraph, radio, or other device

¹ Only the constitutions of nine other states have provisions that, like Washington, explicitly provide for the protection of privacy. See ALASKA CONST. Art. I, §22; ARIZ. CONST. Art. II, §8; CAL. CONST. Art. I, §1; FLA. CONST. Art. I, §23; HAW. CONST. Art. I, §6; ILL. CONST. Art. 1, §6; LA. CONST. Art. 1, §5; MONT. CONST. Art. II, §10; S.C. CONST. Art. I, §10. Of these, only four other states also require the permission of all parties to a telephone conversation before it can be legally recorded. These are California, Florida, Illinois, and Montana.

between two or more individuals between points within or without the state by any device electronic or otherwise designed to record and/or transmit said communication regardless how such device is powered or actuated, without first obtaining the consent of all the participants in the conversation.

- b. Private conversation, by any device electronic or otherwise designed to record or transmit such conversation regardless how the device is powered or actuated without first obtaining the consent of all the persons engaged in the conversation.

This proscription remains the cornerstone of the Washington Privacy Act ("WPA"), codified in RCW 9.73.010-9.73.140.

The purpose of the WPA, as recognized by the Washington Supreme Court is to

safeguard the private conversations of citizens from dissemination in any way. The statute reflects a desire to protect individuals from the disclosure of any secret illegally uncovered by law enforcement.

State v. Fjermestad, 114 Wn.2d 828, 836, 791 P.2d 897 (1990);
see also Johnson v. Hawe, 388 F.3d 676 (9th Cir. 2004) (holding the WPA "deliberately places the court system between the police and private citizen to protect against this type of [electronic eavesdropping]"). Through the WPA, Washington "has recognized a strong policy of protecting the privacy of its citizens and the introduction of evidence obtained in violation of the statutes is

prohibited.” State v. Baird, 83 Wn. App. 477, 483, 922 P.2d 157 (1996). This Court recently held it would require strict conformity with the WPA. Lewis v. State, 157 Wn.2d 446, 465, 139 P.3d 1078 (2006).

1. The conversations between Mr. Modica and his grandmother were private. Whether a communication is private is a question of fact depending on the reasonable, subjective expectations of the parties. State v. Christensen, 153 Wn.2d 186, 193, 102 P.3d 789 (2004); State v. Faford, 128 Wn.2d 476, 484, 910 P.2d 447 (1996); Kadorian by Peach v. Bellingham Police Dept., 119 Wn.2d 178, 829 P.2d 1061 (1992). The primary question is whether the parties intended the conversations to be private. State v. Clark, 129 Wn.2d 211, 225, 916 P.2d 384 (1996). The secondary consideration is analyzed by reviewing the duration and subject matter of the conversations, the location and presence of third parties, the role of the non-consenting party and the relationship between the parties. Id. at 225-26.

The parties here conversed over the telephone, not on a public street as in Clark, 129 Wn.2d at 228, or at a meeting as in State v. Slemmer, 48 Wn. App. 48, 53, 738 P.2d 281 (1987). The parties were close family members, unlike the strangers at issue in

Clark, 129 Wn.2d at 227, and Kardorianian, 119 Wn.2d at 190.

And the subject matter of the calls cuts both ways; although on the one hand the conversations included statements which led to Mr. Modica's tampering conviction, they also included conversations about the welfare and day-to-day life of the parties' family, subject matter which is generally private. Most importantly, as discussed below, neither party consented.

The Court of Appeals held that the parties' expectations of privacy could not have been reasonable because both parties were on notice that the calls were subject to monitoring. Slip op. at 14-15. However, notice is not the same as consent. Announcing the intent to illegally record another's telephone calls does not cure the illegality.

In Faford, the Court rejected the State's argument that because technological developments allow easy interception of cordless telephone calls, users of cordless telephones do not have a reasonable expectation of privacy. Id. at 485. It is absurd to argue that because something is technologically feasible it is legal, even if the users of that technology are aware of the risks. The Supreme Court has warned:

We recognize as technology races ahead with ever increasing speed, our subjective expectations of privacy may be unconsciously altered. Our right to privacy may be eroded without our awareness, much less our consent. We believe our legal right to privacy should reflect thoughtful and purposeful choices rather than simply mirror the current state of the commercial technology industry.

State v. Young, 123 Wn.2d 173, 184, 867 P.2d 593 (1994).

It is equally absurd to argue that telephone calls from jail can never be private simply because the parties are aware that the call may be monitored. The unconscious altering of expectations warned of in Young cannot justify illegal government action, and the existence of a recorded warning cannot substitute for a subjective, case-by-case inquiry. Here, such an inquiry requires the result that the conversations were intended to be, and in fact were private.

2. The government did not obtain two-party consent pursuant to RCW 9.73.030. There is not a single case or statute that says that a mere statement that the recording is occurring, by a non-party, is sufficient to establish consent to record telephone conversations. At most, such a statement provides notice, not consent. Our Legislature made that clear by carefully defining consent. "Two party consent," as defined in the WPA itself, exists only

... whenever one party has announced to all other parties engaged in the communication or conversation, in any reasonably effective manner, that such communication or conversation is about to be recorded or transmitted:

PROVIDED, That if the conversation is to be recorded that said announcement shall also be recorded.

RCW 9.73.030(3). There were two parties to the conversations:

Mr. Modica and his grandmother, Ms. Stewart. Neither of them announced to the other that the call would be recorded. Neither consented.

In fact, this Court has specifically held that someone doing the same thing that the government did here was not a "party." In Faford, the Supreme Court held that a neighbor who listened to (and recorded) telephone conversations between two others was not a "party" to those conversations. 128 Wn.2d at 487-88. The Faford Court further held that "the plain language of [RCW 9.73.030] requires one intended party to the conversation to consent to interception." Id.; see also Baird, 83 Wn. App. 477 (defendant illegally recorded a telephone conversation between his wife and another man, and so the tape was inadmissible); Christensen, 153 Wn.2d 186 (mother illegally intercepted telephone conversation between her daughter and her daughter's boyfriend). The Court reversed Faford's conviction, holding in part:

Despite [the neighbor's] allegations that Defendant's conveyed threats to his family and property, the plain language of the statute requires one intended party to the conversation to consent to interception for the threat exception to apply. Because *none of the parties to Defendant's cordless telephone conversations consented to interception*, the threat exception does not apply.

128 Wn.2d at 487-88 (emphasis added).

WPA cases permit the government to listen to a telephone call when someone calls a government agency or actor, or when a government actor makes the call him or herself, thereby making the government a party to the call.² Other WPA cases permit the government to listen to telephone calls when one of the intended recipients takes an affirmative step to consent, such as tipping the receiver so that a government agent can hear it.³ Again, in that case an intended party to the call has consented. No WPA case permits the government to interject itself into private telephone conversations in the manner done so here.

² See State v. Townsend, 147 Wn.2d 666, 57 P.3d 255 (2002) (use of recorded computerized messages appropriate because defendant's sent the messages to a federal agent – the agent was a "party"); State v. Clark, 129 Wn.2d 211, 916 P.2d 384 (1996) (defendant spoke to undercover agent who was the consenting "party" to the conversation); State v. Rupe, 101 Wn.2d 664, 683 P.2d 571 (1984) (defendant spoke to police and so the person recording the conversation was also a "party"); State v. Caliguri, 99 Wn.2d 501, 664 P.2d 466 (1983) (recordings admitted where defendant was talking to government agent, and so government agent was a "party"); State v. Jones, 95 Wn.2d 616, 628 P.2d 472 (1981) (defendant spoke to police and so the person recording the conversation was also a "party"); State v. Williams, 94 Wn.2d 531, 617 P.2d 1012 (1980) (defendant spoke to undercover agent who consented to the recording and so the person consenting was also an intended "party"); State v. Cunningham, 93 Wn.2d 823, 613 P.2d 1139 (1980) (defendant spoke to police and so the person recording the conversation was also a "party"); State v. Higgins, 125 Wn. App. 666, 105 P.3d 1029 (2005) (defendant conversing with police officer and so the person recording was also a "party"); State v. Mazzante, 86 Wn. App. 425, 936 P.2d 1206 (1997) (defendant spoke to police officers and so the person recording the conversation was also a "party"); State v. Gelvin, 43 Wn. App. 691, 719 P.2d 580 (1986) (defendant spoke to police and so the person recording the conversation was also a "party").

³ State v. Corliss, 123 Wn.2d 656, 870 P.2d 317 (1994) (defendant talked to a party who consented to have the call intercepted by tipping the receiver so that an officer could hear the conversation).

In Faford, our Supreme Court chastised the State for defending the neighbor's actions:

[The neighbor] did not accidentally or unintentionally pick up a single cordless telephone conversation on his radio or cordless telephone, but undertook 24-hour, intentional, targeted monitoring of Defendants' telephone calls with a scanner purchased for that purpose. This type of intentional, persistent eavesdropping on another's private affairs personifies the very activity the privacy act seeks to discourage.

125 Wn.2d at 487-88. This case is no different, except that here the government was not just defending the intentional, persistent eavesdropping on another's private affairs – it was doing it. The jail administration undertook 24-hour, intentional, targeted monitoring of Mr. Modica's telephone calls. This "personifies the very activity the privacy act seeks to discourage." Id.

This case is easily distinguished from those relied on by the Court of Appeals to find that the parties implied consent. Slip op. at 15-16, citing In re Marriage of Farr, 87 Wn. App. 177, 184, 940 P.2d 679 (1997); State v. Townsend, 147 Wn.2d 666, 675-78, 57 P.3d 255 (2002). In Farr, implied consent was found where a party left a message on an answering machine, "the only function of which is to record messages." Slip op. at 16. In Townsend, implied consent to the recording of e-mail messages was found where the party knew the e-mails would be recorded on the

recipient's computer. (Cf. United States v. Long, 64 M.J. 57 (2006), holding a servicemember had an objectively reasonable expectation of privacy in e-mail messages she transmitted over a government computer network, despite the logon message advising her such messages would be subject to monitoring.) Here, Mr. Modica was not leaving a message for his grandmother or sending her e-mail; he was speaking to her directly. His grandmother was not recording him; the county was. And although the county notified the callers that their conversation would be recorded, the parties had no choice in the matter if they wished to communicate. The defendant in Townsend, could have advised the other party to override his default software settings or chosen a different method of communication altogether, and the caller in Farr could have declined to leave a message and instead called back later. Mr. Modica and his grandmother had no such options. The Court of Appeals in this case has essentially ruled that it is impossible for a King County Jail inmate to have a private communication.

3. No WPA exemption exists for monitoring the calls of a county jail inmate. The Legislature specifically exempted employees of the Department of Corrections (DOC) from some of the WPA's provisions:

(1) RCW 9.73.030 through 9.73.080 and 9.73.260 shall not apply to employees of the department of corrections in the following instances: *Intercepting, recording or divulging any telephone calls from an offender or resident of a state correctional facility*; or intercepting, recording, or divulging any monitored nontelephonic conversations in offender living units, cells, rooms, dormitories, and common spaces where offenders may be present. For the purposes of this section, "state correctional facility" means a facility that is under the control and authority of the department of corrections, and used for the incarceration, treatment or rehabilitation of convicted felons.

RCW 9.73.095(1) (emphasis added). Clearly, this exception does not apply here. Mr. Modica was confined in King County Jail, not a state correctional institution; DOC employees do not run the facility.

In State v. Wanrow, 88 Wn.2d 221, 551, P.2d 548 (1977), this Court held that a provision which limited the recording of calls to police and fire stations implied that these calls would otherwise be private under the pre-amendment WPA. "There would be no purpose in enacting this exclusion unless the legislature believed such communications were otherwise within the scope of the section." Id. at 228. The Wanrow holding was later superceded by 1977 amendments to the WPA, authorizing the recording of telephone calls to police dispatchers. Lewis, 157 Wn.2d at 464, citing Laws of 1977, 1st Ex. Sess., ch. 363, § 3. Distinguishing

Wanrow, the Lewis Court found “this amendment indicates that the legislature did not intend the exemption of a particular type of communication under RCW 9.73.090 to imply that the communication is otherwise private for purposes of the privacy act.” Lewis, 157 Wn.2d at 464. But here, no amendments or other legislative history suggest such a result. To the contrary, in 2006 a Bill Request, attached to Appellant’s Opening Brief as Appendix B, was sent to the Code Reviser’s Office for the Washington State Legislature. This description of this Bill Request was: “Regulating the interception of offender conversations by county-operated correctional facilities.” The Bill would have added “employees of a county-operated correction facility” to the list of people authorized to record pursuant to RCW 9.73.095, but was never even introduced and has not become law.

Wanrow’s reasoning is still sound. Just as in Wanrow, the existence of RCW 9.73.095 shows that the Legislature saw a need for this exception, indicating that the calls would otherwise be private and, without the exception, monitoring of DOC prisoners’ telephone calls could violate the WPA. And the Legislature’s decision not to make a special exception for other correctional facilities indicates that the WPA must apply to the monitoring of telephone calls at county jails. The Court of Appeals’ holding – that telephone calls made by King County Jail inmates can never be

private and that both parties to such calls always imply consent –
contradicts and undermines the clear legislative intent of the WPA.

F. CONCLUSION

Mr. Modica's conversations with his grandmother were private and recorded without the consent of either party. The recordings were illegally obtained and should never have been admitted at trial. Mr. Modica therefore respectfully requests this Court accept review and reverse his tampering conviction.

DATED this 25th day of January, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,


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FILED
COURT OF APPEALS DIV. #1
STATE OF WASHINGTON
2007 JAN 25 PM 4:50

For my I deposited in the mail of the United States of America a properly stamped and addressed envelope directed to the attorneys of record of plaintiff/defendant containing a copy of the document to which this declaration is attached.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Name  Date JAN 25 2007

Done in Seattle, Washington

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Respondent,

v.

DESMOND EARL MODICA,

Appellant.

No. 57115-0-I

DIVISION ONE

PUBLISHED OPINION

FILED: DEC 26 2006

DWYER, J.—Following a jury trial in King County Superior Court, Desmond Modica was convicted of one count each of assault in the second degree, assault in the fourth degree, resisting arrest, and tampering with a witness. Modica appeals from the judgments entered on the verdicts, contending that the trial court violated his state and federal constitutional right to assistance of counsel both by granting his motion for self-representation and by denying his subsequent motion for reappointment of counsel. Modica further contends that the trial court erred by admitting into evidence recordings of telephone conversations between Modica and his grandmother that took place while he was an inmate in the King County Jail, alleging that the recording of those conversations violated his statutory right of privacy, as codified in chapter 9.73 RCW. Finding no error, we affirm.

FACTS

On the night of May 18, 2005, a physical altercation took place between Modica and his wife. Ms. Modica left the scene of the incident and called 911. Police officers responded to the 911 call and attempted to place Modica under arrest. Modica initially fled from the officers, but was eventually subdued and arrested.

On June 1, 2005, the King County Superior Court issued an order prohibiting Modica from having any contact with his wife.

Modica was detained in the King County Jail for several weeks after his arrest. While there, Modica telephoned and spoke with his grandmother almost daily. During several of these calls, Modica expressed his desire that Ms. Modica not testify against him at trial, and encouraged his grandmother to tell Ms. Modica not to testify.

All telephone calls made by an inmate of the jail to a person other than the inmate's attorney are recorded and subject to monitoring. Signs posted in the jail alert inmates to this fact. Additionally, when a call is initiated by the inmate, a recorded message is played for both the inmate and the call recipient that states that the call is recorded and subject to monitoring.¹ A call cannot continue until

¹ The recorded message states: "Hello, this is a collect call from [Inmate's name as recited by the Inmate], an inmate at King County Detention Facility. This call will be recorded and subject to monitoring at any time. To accept the charges dial 3. To decline the charges dial 9 or hang up now. Thank you for using Public Communication Services. You may begin speaking now." (Emphasis added.) Modica's name, as recited by Modica, was inserted into each of the recorded messages that preceded Modica's conversations with his grandmother.

after the recorded message plays and the call's recipient presses "3" on the recipient's telephone keypad.

Both Modica and his grandmother heard the recorded message before each of their telephone conversations. Modica's grandmother pressed "3" on her keypad in order to commence each conversation. During several of the conversations, Modica stated to his grandmother that the calls were being recorded.

On May 23, 2005, the State filed an information charging Modica with one count of assault in the second degree and one count of resisting arrest. Counsel was appointed to assist Modica, and he was arraigned on June 1, 2005. On June 22, 2005, Modica moved for the appointment of new counsel. The trial court granted his motion. On July 8, 2005, the State filed an amended information adding a charge of assault in the fourth degree.

On July 8, 2005, and again on July 12, 2005, expressing dismay that his new attorney sought an additional six weeks to prepare for trial, Modica requested to proceed to trial as a pro se litigant. In response to Modica's requests, the trial court engaged him in a lengthy colloquy. During that colloquy the court reviewed the elements of and maximum penalties associated with each charged offense, stressed the technical nature of the rules of evidence and criminal procedure, asked if Modica had any legal training, and encouraged Modica to accept a continuance rather than to proceed pro se. Modica confirmed his desire to represent himself. The trial court granted his request.

On July 21, 2005, the State filed a second amended information adding one count of tampering with a witness (Ms. Modica), based in part on information contained in recordings of the telephone conversations between Modica and his grandmother.

Sometime between July 21, 2005 and July 25, 2005, Ms. Modica was arrested on a material witness warrant. She was subsequently confined in the King County Jail until she could testify at trial.

On July 25, 2005, the parties appeared before the judge who would preside over Modica's trial. The trial court again encouraged Modica not to proceed pro se and suggested a continuance to allow an attorney adequate time to prepare for trial. The court did not inform Modica of the elements of or maximum penalty associated with the newly added witness tampering charge. Modica asserted his continuing desire to represent himself. On July 27, 2005, a jury was empanelled. On July 28, 2005, Modica moved for reappointment of counsel. The trial court denied the motion and trial continued.

Over Modica's objection, during the course of the trial recordings of some of the telephone calls made by Modica to his grandmother were admitted into evidence and played to the jury.

DISCUSSION

I. Waiver of Right to Assistance of Counsel

Modica first contends that the trial court erred by granting his request to waive his right to assistance of counsel and proceed to trial pro se. We disagree.

The state and federal constitutions guarantee a criminal defendant both the right to counsel and the right to self-representation. UNITED STATES CONST. amends. VI and XIV; WASH. CONST. art. 1, § 22; Faretta v. California, 422 U.S. 806, 819, 95 S. Ct. 2525, 45 L. Ed. 2d 562 (1975); State v. Luvene, 127 Wn.2d 690, 698, 903 P.2d 960 (1995). However, the right to self-representation is not self-executing. State v. Woods, 143 Wn.2d 561, 586, 23 P.3d 1046 (2001). A criminal defendant who desires to waive the right to counsel and proceed pro se must make an affirmative demand, and the demand must be unequivocal in the context of the record as a whole. Luvene, 127 Wn.2d at 698-99.

Furthermore, to be valid, a waiver of the right to counsel must be made knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently. City of Tacoma v. Bishop, 82 Wn.App. 850, 855, 920 P.2d 214 (1996). While there are no steadfast rules for determining whether a defendant's waiver of the right to assistance of counsel is validly made, the preferred procedure for determining the validity of a waiver involves the trial court's colloquy with the defendant, conducted on the record. This colloquy should include a discussion about the seriousness of the charge, the possible maximum penalty involved, and the existence of technical procedural rules governing the presentation of the accused's defense. State v. Lillard, 122 Wn. App. 422, 427-30, 93 P.3d 969 (2004).

Despite Modica's assertion to the contrary, the record herein reveals that the trial court's lengthy colloquy with Modica went well beyond being a "mere routine inquiry" and was plainly sufficient to determine the validity of Modica's

waiver of the right to assistance of counsel. Lillard, 122 Wn. App. at 427-430. Cf. State v. Chavis, 31 Wn. App. 784, 790, 644 P.2d 1202 (1982) (mere routine inquiry insufficient to establish validity of waiver). The trial court informed Modica of the seriousness of and maximum penalties associated with the charges levied against him at the time, as well as the technical procedural rules applicable to a criminal jury trial. The court also asked Modica several questions to ascertain his legal knowledge, and alerted him to the difficulty of proceeding pro se. Furthermore, the trial court repeatedly advised Modica not to proceed pro se. The court's colloquy was sufficient for it to ascertain that Modica's waiver was made knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently.

Modica further contends that his request was equivocal because his true desire was to avoid trial delay, rather than to proceed pro se. This argument is unavailing.

It is true that when a defendant's request to proceed pro se is actually an expression of frustration with a trial's delay, rather than a true desire to proceed without an attorney, the request is equivocal. Woods, 143 Wn.2d at 585-87; Luvane, 127 Wn.2d at 698-99. However, when a defendant makes a clear and knowing request to proceed pro se, such a request is not rendered equivocal by the fact that the defendant is motivated by something other than a singular desire to conduct his or her own defense. State v. DeWeese, 117 Wn.2d 369, 378-79, 816 P.2d 1 (1991) (defendant's request to proceed pro se was unequivocal, despite being motivated by frustration with attorney's performance).

Here, Modica made a strategic choice to assert his right to self-representation in order to proceed to trial more quickly than the four to six weeks it would take his new attorney to adequately prepare.² Whatever his underlying motivation for doing so, his request was clear and unequivocal. Accordingly, Modica validly waived his right to counsel.

The trial court did not abuse its discretion in granting Modica's motion to waive his right to counsel and to proceed to trial pro se.

II. Reappointment of Counsel

Modica next contends that the trial court violated his right to assistance of counsel by denying his subsequent motion for reappointment of counsel. We disagree.

While criminal defendants have a right to assistance of counsel, a defendant who has validly waived that right has relinquished the right to demand assistance of counsel as a matter of entitlement. DeWeese, 117 Wn.2d at 376-77. Thus, whether a motion for reappointment should be granted is within the discretion of the trial court. DeWeese, 117 Wn.2d at 376-77; State v. Canedo-Astorga, 79 Wn. App. 518, 525-27, 903 P.2d 500 (1995). In exercising that

² Modica argues that he was "forced" to choose between his right to assistance of counsel and his right to a timely trial, as guaranteed by CrR 3.3. However, it appears from the record herein that a significant reason a continuance would be required for Modica's attorney to adequately prepare was Modica's own request, less than three weeks before he moved to proceed pro se, that new counsel be appointed. Thus, Modica's predicament was not forced upon him. Moreover, if a continuance had been granted by the trial court upon a finding that such a continuance was "required in the administration of justice," the length of that continuance would have been excluded for the purpose of computing the time-for-trial period under CrR 3.3. CrR3.3(f)(2); CrR 3.3(e)(3); State v. Nguyen, 131 Wn. App. 815, 819, 129 P.3d 821 (2006). Thus, Modica's right to a timely trial was not in jeopardy.

discretion, the trial court may consider all of the circumstances that exist when a request for reappointment is made. Canedo-Astorga, 79 Wn. App. at 525.

These standards are designed, in part, to protect the trial court and the integrity of the criminal justice system from manipulative vacillations by a defendant wishing to disrupt or delay trial. DeWeese, 117 Wn.2d at 376.

The trial court's discretion to grant or deny a motion to proceed pro se lies along a continuum that corresponds with the timeliness of the request. If the request is made well before trial, the right exists as a matter of law. If the request is made shortly before trial, the existence of the right depends on the facts of the case with a measure of discretion reposing in the trial court. If made during trial, the right rests largely in the informed discretion of the trial court. State v. Honton, 85 Wn. App. 415, 420, 932 P.2d 1276 (1997); State v. Fritz, 21 Wn. App. 354, 585 P.2d 173 (1978). These rules apply with equal force to a request for reappointment of counsel. The burdens imposed upon the trial court, the jurors, the witnesses, and the integrity of the criminal justice system increase as trial approaches or when trial has already commenced. Thus, the degree of discretion reposing in the trial court is at its greatest when a request for reappointment of counsel is made after trial has begun.³

³ As the DeWeese court explained: "After a defendant's valid *Faretta* waiver of counsel . . . , the trial court is not obliged to appoint, or reappoint, counsel on the demand of the defendant. The matter is wholly within the trial court's discretion. Self-representation is a grave undertaking, one not to be encouraged. Its consequences, which often work to the defendant's detriment, must nevertheless be borne by the defendant. When a criminal defendant chooses to represent himself and waive the assistance of counsel, the defendant is not entitled to special consideration and the inadequacy of the defense cannot provide a basis for a new trial or an appeal." DeWeese, 117 Wn.2d at 379.

In this case, several factors bearing upon the reasonableness of Modica's request for reappointment of counsel support the trial court's decision to deny that request. Importantly, Modica had several opportunities to seek reappointment earlier in the proceedings and was, in fact, encouraged by the trial court to do so, but nevertheless chose to remain pro se. Furthermore, Modica's request was made only after a jury had been empanelled and jeopardy had attached. Thus, if the trial court had granted Modica's request it would have been forced to either grant a continuance to allow an attorney to adequately prepare, thus requiring the jury members to return for the later resumption of trial, or to declare a mistrial (with its attendant double jeopardy concerns). In addition, and significantly, Ms. Modica was being held on a material witness warrant at the time of Modica's request, a burdensome situation that the trial court was loath to prolong.⁴

The trial court did not abuse its discretion in denying Modica's request for reappointment of counsel.

III. Second Colloquy Not Required

Modica further argues that the trial court erred by failing to sua sponte engage him in a second full colloquy informing him of the maximum penalty

⁴ The fact that a new charge had been added after Modica's waiver of the right to assistance of counsel was one factor weighing in favor of granting the motion. This factor was known to the trial court. However, it was well within the trial court's broad discretion to find that the other circumstances militated in favor of denying Modica's request, made after trial began. Canedo-Astorga, 79 Wn. App. at 525.

associated with the tampering with a witness charge that was added after Modica waived his right to assistance of counsel.⁵ We disagree.

As a preliminary matter, the proper inquiry in determining the “knowing” waiver of a right to counsel is the state of mind and knowledge of the defendant at the time the waiver is made. United States v. Erskine, 355 F.3d 1161, 1169-70 (9th Cir. 2004). Accordingly, if a defendant accurately understands the penalty he or she faces at the time the waiver is made, such waiver is knowingly made and, therefore, valid. Erskine, 355 F.3d at 1169-70. Furthermore, a valid waiver of the right to assistance of counsel generally continues throughout the criminal proceedings, unless the circumstances suggest that the waiver was limited. Arnold v. United States, 414 F.2d 1056, 1059 (9th Cir. 1969). Thus, it is not ordinarily incumbent upon a trial court to intervene at a later stage of the proceeding to inquire about a party’s continuing desire to proceed pro se. Arellanes v. United States, 302 F.2d 603, 610 (9th Cir. 1962). Our Supreme Court has made clear that a defendant who elects to proceed pro se must bear the risks of so doing and is not entitled to “special consideration.” DeWeese, 117 Wn.2d at 379.

In the federal courts, the stated rule is that “only a substantial change in circumstances will require the [trial] court to inquire whether the defendant

⁵ After the addition of the new charge against Modica, the trial court twice questioned him regarding his continuing wish to proceed pro se. On July 25, 2005, the trial court engaged in a lengthy discussion with Modica during which it again asked whether he wished to proceed pro se, encouraged him not to proceed pro se, and attempted to ascertain how quickly a defense attorney would be able to prepare for Modica’s trial should he wish to proceed with an attorney. The next day, the trial court again asked Modica if he wished to proceed pro se. On both occasions, Modica clearly confirmed his desire to proceed without an attorney.

wishes to revoke his earlier waiver.” United States v. Fazzini, 871 F.2d 635, 643 (7th Cir. 1989) (court did not err by failing to inquire as to defendant’s wish to revoke his earlier waiver of assistance of trial counsel for purposes of a sentencing hearing because there was no substantial change in the defendant’s circumstances). Cf. Schell v. United States, 423 F.2d 101, 102-03 (7th Cir. 1970) (trial court erred by failing to inquire as to defendant’s wish to revoke his earlier waiver of assistance of trial counsel for the purposes of a sentencing hearing because, under all of the circumstances, including passage of time and incorrect advice regarding maximum applicable penalty, defendant’s situation had substantially changed).

We hold that the trial court here was not required to inquire as to Modica’s continuing wish to waive his right to assistance of counsel.⁶ Nevertheless, it did so. Four days after the information was amended to add the tampering with a witness charge, the trial court queried Modica about whether he wished to revoke his earlier waiver, and again advised him not to proceed pro se. The next day, which was the day before trial began, the trial court again asked Modica if he wished to proceed pro se. The trial court was not required to sua sponte engage

⁶ The facts in Fazzini and Schell are distinguishable from those here in significant respects. The issue in those cases was whether the trial court was required to inquire as to the ongoing validity of the defendant’s waiver for the purposes of a post-trial sentencing hearing, after a guilty verdict had been returned. Fazzini, 871 F.2d at 643; Schell, 423 F.2d at 102-03. Furthermore, the Schell court’s conclusion that further inquiry was required was largely based on the trial court’s realization that it had misinformed the defendant of the maximum penalty associated with the charges against him at the time the waiver was made. Schell, 423 F.2d at 102.

Modica in a second full colloquy in which it informed him of the new charge's maximum penalty.⁷

The trial court did not err by not engaging in another full colloquy informing Modica of the consequences of proceeding pro se and the maximum penalties associated with the witness tampering charge. No such colloquy was required. The trial court's sua sponte efforts to confirm Modica's continuing desire for self-representation, which continued up to the eve of trial, sufficiently guaranteed that his Sixth Amendment rights were preserved.

IV. Admissibility of Recorded Telephone Calls

Finally, Modica argues that the trial court erred by admitting recordings of the conversations between Modica and his grandmother, claiming that the recording of those calls violated the statutory right of privacy conferred by chapter 9.73 RCW (hereinafter, "privacy act"). We disagree.

RCW 9.73.030(1) prohibits government interception or recording of private conversations or communications without first obtaining the consent of all the participants or persons engaged in the conversations or communications.⁸

⁷ We note that if every added charge against a pro se defendant resulted in the automatic invalidation of all prior valid waivers of counsel and created the need for a second full colloquy, the State might be hindered in its ability to bring additional charges against pro se defendants, and defendants might be encouraged to proceed pro se in order to avoid exposure to additional charges.

⁸ RCW 9.73.030 provides in relevant part:

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it shall be unlawful for any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or the state of Washington, its agencies, and political subdivisions to intercept, or record any:

(a) Private communication transmitted by telephone, telegraph, radio, or other device between two or more individuals between points within or without the state by any device electronic or otherwise designed to record and/or transmit said communication regardless how such device is powered or actuated, without first obtaining the consent of all the participants in the communication;

Information obtained in violation of the privacy act is deemed inadmissible in any civil or criminal case. RCW 9.73.050.

We conclude that the trial court did not err by admitting recordings of the conversations between Modica and his grandmother, both because the conversations were not private within the meaning of the privacy act and because Modica and his grandmother consented to the recording of the conversations.

a. *"Private" Communication*

The term "private" is not defined in the privacy act. The Supreme Court has "adopted the WEBSTER'S THIRD NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY (1969) definition of 'private' as "'belonging to one's self . . . secret . . . intended only for the persons involved (a conversation) . . . holding a confidential relationship to something . . . a secret message: a private communication . . . secretly: not open or in public.'" Lewis v. Dep't of Licensing, 129 Wn.2d 446, 458, 139 P.3d 1078 (2006); State v. Christensen, 153 Wn.2d 186, 193, 102 P.3d 789 (2004).

A communication is private within the meaning of the privacy act only when (1) the parties to the communication manifest a subjective intention that it be private and (2) where that expectation of privacy is reasonable. Christensen, 153 Wn.2d at 193; State v. Townsend, 147 Wn.2d 666, 673, 57 P.3d 255 (2002).

(b) Private conversation, by any device electronic or otherwise designed to record or transmit such conversation regardless how the device is powered or actuated, without first obtaining the consent of all the persons engaged in the conversation.

(Emphasis added.)

Factors bearing on the reasonableness of the expectation of privacy include the duration and subject matter of the communication, the location of the communication and the potential presence of third parties, and the role of the nonconsenting party and his or her relationship to the consenting party. Lewis, 129 Wn.2d at 458-59; State v. Clark, 129 Wn.2d 211, 225, 916 P.2d 384 (1996). In general, the presence of another person during the conversation means that the matter is neither secret nor confidential. Clark, 129 Wn.2d at 226.

Here, even if Modica and his grandmother had subjective expectations of privacy in the telephone conversations, those expectations were not reasonable under the circumstances in which the calls were made.

Modica's reasonable expectation of privacy as an inmate was less than that of a free citizen. State v. Rainford, 86 Wn. App. 431, 438, 936 P.2d 1210 (1997) ("[A]n inmate's expectation of privacy is necessarily lowered while in custody."). Accord State v. Campbell, 103 Wn.2d 1, 23, 691 P.2d 929 (1984). See also United States v. Van Poyck, 77 F.3d 285, 290-91 (9th Cir. 1996) ("[N]o prisoner should reasonably expect privacy in his outbound telephone calls.").

Furthermore, the recorded message alerted Modica and his grandmother to the fact that the calls were recorded and were subject to monitoring. This gave both of them clear notice that the calls were not private. Modica was provided further notice by the posted signs stating that inmates' calls would be recorded and subject to monitoring. Modica's grandmother's notice was further ensured by the requirement that she press "3" on her telephone keypad after

listening to the recorded message and before commencing the telephone discussion. Under these circumstances, neither Modica nor his grandmother could have maintained a reasonable expectation that their conversations were either secret or confidential. Clark, 129 Wn.2d at 226.

The trial court did not err by admitting into evidence the recordings of the telephone calls between Modica and his grandmother. The calls were not private, within the meaning of the privacy act.

b. *Consent*

Pursuant to RCW 9.73.030, the recording of private communications or conversations does not violate the privacy act when all the participants or parties engaged in the communication or conversation consent to such recording. RCW 9.73.030(1)(a) and (b).

A party to a conversation is deemed to have consented to having his or her communication recorded when the person knows that the recording is taking place. Townsend, 147 Wn.2d at 675 (party deemed to have consented to the recording of e-mail messages because he knew such messages would be automatically recorded on the recipient's computer). See also In re Marriage of Farr, 87 Wn. App. 177, 184, 940 P.2d 679 (1997) (party deemed to have consented to the recording of message when he left the message on an answering machine, the only function of which is to record messages).

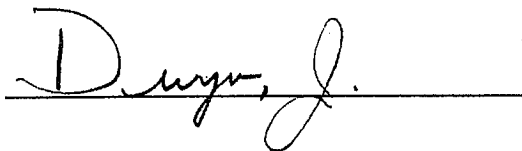
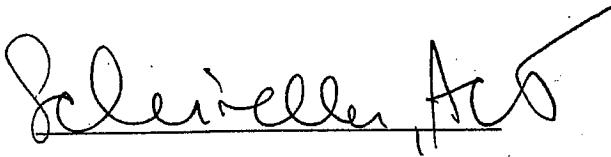
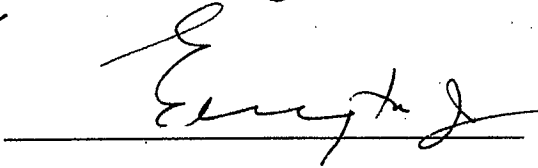
Both Modica and his grandmother heard the recorded message alerting them to the fact that the calls were being recorded, and Modica acknowledged

during some of his conversations with his grandmother that the calls were being recorded. Thus, both Modica and his grandmother knew that their conversations were being recorded, but nevertheless chose to converse. Accordingly, they each consented to the recordings.

The trial court did not err by admitting into evidence the recordings of the conversations. Both Modica and his grandmother consented to the recording of those conversations, within the meaning of the privacy act.⁹

Affirmed.

WE CONCUR:

⁹ Modica also argues that the jail's recording and monitoring of the calls between him and his grandmother violated provisions of the Washington Administrative Code. However, those provisions have since been decodified, WAC 289-24-100(4) and WAC 289-24-200(4), decodified by Wash. St. Reg. 06-14-008, filed June 22, 2006, effective June 22, 2006, as was the statutory authority for those provisions. Former RCW 70.48.050, repealed by Laws of 1987, ch. 462, § 23. This argument is without merit.

Finally, Modica makes a passing contention that the recording and monitoring of the calls violated article I, section 7 of the Washington Constitution. Modica does not develop this argument. Accordingly, we do not consider it. In re Rosier, 105 Wn.2d 606, 616, 717 P.2d 1353 (1986), superseded by statute on other grounds, Laws of 1987, ch. 403, § 1 ("[N]aked castings into the constitutional sea are not sufficient to command judicial consideration and discussion.") (quoting United States v. Phillips, 433 F.2d 1364, 1366 (8th Cir. 1970)); Palmer v. Jensen, 81 Wn. App. 148, 153, 913 P.2d 413 (1996) ("Passing treatment of an issue or lack of reasoned argument is insufficient to merit judicial consideration."), remanded on other grounds, 132 Wn.2d 193, 937 P.2d 597 (1997).